



CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON, D.C., 20515

10/2

Received & Inspected
NOV 27 2017
FCC Mailroom

November 15, 2017

Ajit Pai
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 Twelfth Street, SW, Room 8-C453
Washington, DC 20554-0004

Dear Chairman Pai:

I am writing to you about the Telephone Consumer Protection Act and the statement of Commissioner Michael O'Rielly relative to the Declaratory Ruling (FCC 16-72).

Commissioner O'Rielly wrote he supports the relief provided in the Ruling which exempts most calls made by or on behalf of the federal government, including tele-town halls. He was frustrated, however, that Commission leadership left unanswered whether state or local agencies would be subject to TCPA lawsuits.

Commissioner O'Rielly was correct in writing that such arbitrary line drawing leaves state and local governments, and the people they serve, exposed to predatory TCPA lawsuits that divert tax dollars away from serving the public.

In Minnesota as well as other states, there are local governments and the citizens they serve that would benefit if such governments were exempt like the federal government is.

I urge the Commission to re-visit this ruling and exempt state and local governments from the TCPA including autodialed and prerecorded calls.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

Erik Paulsen
Member of Congress

EP/mc



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF
THE CHAIRMAN

January 19, 2018

The Honorable Erik Paulsen
U.S. House of Representatives
127 Cannon House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Congressman Paulsen:

Thank you for your letter urging the Commission to address whether autodialed and prerecorded calls made by or on behalf of state or local governments are exempt from Telephone Consumer Protection Act (TCPA) requirements. Your views are very important and will be entered into the record of the proceeding.

As you note in your letter, the Commission's *Broadnet* Declaratory Ruling, which involved the application of the TCPA to the federal government and its contractors, did not address whether robocalls by or on behalf of state or local governments are subject to the TCPA's requirements. With respect to the *Broadnet* decision, we are now considering two petitions for reconsideration. We will take into consideration the issues and concerns presented by all stakeholders as the Commission makes every effort to conclude its review as quickly and equitably as possible.

I appreciate your interest in this matter. Please let me know if I can be of any further assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read "Ajit V. Pai", is written over the printed name.

Ajit V. Pai